

MINUTES
of the meeting of the
COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
IN EDUCATION

December 3, 2014

The Commission on Professional Standards in Education (COPS) held a public meeting on December 3, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. The sites were connected by video conference at the locations below.

Department of Education
9890 South Maryland Pkwy
Board Room
Las Vegas, NV 89183

and

Department of Education
700 East Fifth Street
Board Room
Carson City, NV 89701

and

Great Basin College
McMullen Hall, Room 110
1500 College Parkway
Elko, NV 89801

Members Present:

Frances McGregor
Patrick Casey
Margaret "Peg" Bean
Ana Zeh
Melissa Burnham
Jennifer Carvalho
Ramona Esparza arrived at 8:18 am

Members Not Present:

Wendy Zastawniak
David Wilson

Department Staff Present:

Dena Durish, Division of Educator Effectiveness
Jason Dietrich, Office of Educator Licensure
Melodie Barnes, Office of Educator Licensure
James Kenyon, Office of Educator Development & Support
Becky-Joe Puente, Assistant to the Commission

Legal Counsel:

Greg Ott, Deputy Attorney General

Audience in Attendance:

Tom Pierce, UNLV
Justin Pilon, CCSD
Andre Yates, CCSD
Ben Gerhardt, Nevada Virtual
Karl Wilson, NDE
Janine Calhoun, Nevada Virtual
Tracy Clark, CCSD
Marty Gardner, CCSD
Patricia Cooper, SNC
Amanda Salazar, TFA

Yolanda Hamilton, Touro
Linda Quinn, UNLV
Donna Elder, NU
Dr. Jeanne Klockow, SN
Rob Askey, Touro
Assemblyman PK O'Neill, District 40
Rachel Salas, NSHE
Jane Splean, NDE
Kate Schum, WCSD
Terry Owens, ETS
Laura Austin, Carson CSD
Kirsten Odegard, SNC
Blakely Hume, NDE
Scott Baez, WCSD

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order; Roll Call; Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Burnham called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m., with attendance as reflected above. Commissioner Casey led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance. It was determined a quorum was present.

Agenda Item #2 – Introduction of New Members

Each member of the Commission gave a brief self-introduction.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Comment #1

- Assemblyman O'Neill spoke on proposed amendment to NAC 391.073. He stated he submitted a letter to Commissioner Burnham outlining his concerns. A constituent contacted him regarding the inability for retired private school educators who were not a member of PERS to obtain "Retiree Licenses". He asked the Board to modify the NAC to do away with an inequity and to allow all educators to have the same benefits and maintain a license. Assemblyman O'Neill addressed Commissioner Carvalho's question if suggested language was presented and he stated it was in the letter he had submitted. The suggestion was to strike 1(a) removing the PERS requirement. Assemblyman O'Neil stated he had LCB research code and could not find any reason why this was enacted. He thanked the group for allowing him to speak and asked the Commission and NDE to keep him informed on this topic
- Andre Yates provided history on NAC 391.073(1)a. This regulation came forth from a legislator who was a former teacher who felt it was unnecessary for retired educators to continue taking classes. They did not take into consideration that a private school teacher could also benefit from this. He suggested perhaps licensing could request work experience in lieu of a PERS letter.
- In response to Andre Yate's statement, Assemblyman O'Neil suggested the private school teacher would be able to submit certified letters of verification for their work experience to show their employment for the required 15 years for a Retiree License.

Agenda Item #4 - Approval of Minutes for the October 15, 2014 Commission Meeting

The Commission took a few minutes to review the minutes provided. Motion: Commissioner Carvalho made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 15, 2014 meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Zeh. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 – Nevada Department of Education Updates shared by Dena Durish

- Commission staffing update. Membership roles for those on the Commission are described in NAC 391.011. Currently there are two open positions.
- Introduction of Laurie Hamilton was made as a new member of the Department of Education, Assistant to the Division of Educator Effectiveness.
- The Committee and Superintendent have made the final selection for the Teacher of the Year applicant who will be representing Nevada for 2015. This information will be forthcoming in December.
- All states have been asked by the federal government to provide a plan by June of 2015 of how our state will ensure equitable distribution of teachers in the classroom.
- We received an anticipated email last Tuesday from the US Department of Education regarding proposed teacher preparation program regulations. COPS does not approve traditional programs, however a large portion of the work that is done is impacted. Dena Durish encouraged all interested parties to go online and review the proposed regulations, as they are in the 60 day review period. The proposed regulations include requirements for states to create a 4-tiered scoring system for programs to show if they are demonstrating graduate success and retention and student outcomes. Institutions scoring low would be at risk for losing federal funding for their federal loan students.
- The Superintendent will be giving an update to the State Board regarding our current process for reviewing Teacher Ed Programs. We will possibly be considering new Teacher Prep Programs for areas of licensure, but will likely wait on reviewing previously approved programs.

Agenda Item #6 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption to Consider Comments for Amendments to NAC 391.237: Endorsements to teach English as second language; endorsement as professional teacher of English as second language. There were 15 individuals present in Las Vegas and 9 individuals present in Carson City. Discussion started at 8:44 a.m. and ended at 9:00 a.m.

- Dena Durish shared this agenda item is a unique situation where there is a hearing and then a workshop in the same day. The Commission heard from EMC (English Mastery Council) four recommendations regarding licensure. They were able to move forward one of them, changing the course names for the TESL endorsement as it stands today in regulation. The language has not yet been changed because the hearing is being held today and the language has not yet been amended. TESL subcommittee was formed to review final 3 recommendations.
- Rachel Salas shared that discussion was held within the EMC, for a slight modification on course name for NAC 391.237 course title of #1 to *“Language Acquisition Theory and English Language Development Practices”*.
- Rachel Salas confirmed for Commissioner Esparza that changes are aligned to the coursework based on discussion was held within the TESL Subcommittee. EMC looked at research including courses taken in the past.
- Dr. Tom Pierce stated under the practicum most licenses state what area the practicum is for. If the area is not specified, when transcripts are reviewed someone could have practicum on their transcripts but not have met the specific requirements for the practicum. Commissioner Burnham stated the practicum piece should be discussed during the workshop.

Motion: Commissioner Zeh made a motion to adopt new language suggestion for course names in the area of study # 1(b) 1-5.

- (1) *Language Acquisition Theory and English Language Development Practices*; and
- (2) *Methods and Curriculum for Teaching English Learners (ELs)*; and
- (3) *Assessment and Evaluation of English Learners (ELs)*; and

(4) Policies, Critical Issues and Best Practices for pre-Kindergarten and Elementary English Learners (ELs)
- OR -
Policies, Critical Issues and Best Practices for Secondary English Learners (ELs)

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Esparza. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 - President Burnham exercised the flexibility option and moved Agenda Item #7 to a later time.

Agenda Item #8 - Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.237: Endorsements to teach English as second language; endorsement as professional teacher of English as second language. There were 15 individuals present in Las Vegas and 9 individuals present in Carson City. Workshop started at 9:02 a.m. and ended at 9:56 a.m.

NAC 391.237 – Title of Regulation

- EMC recommended a name change “TESL” (Teaching English as a Second Language) to “ELAD” (English Language and Development) as it would accurately reflect what occurs in classrooms and schools. Rachel Salas said often it’s the student’s third or fourth language not their second. What is occurring is the Acquisition of Learning the English language.
- Commissioner Burnham asked if there would be any implications for licensees transferring in and out of the state with a TESL endorsement. Jane Spleen stated many states have different names for the same endorsement. Dena Durish shared there is a reciprocity issue. Laws and regulations which allow reciprocity for licenses become murky at the talk of different types of endorsements. Practice has been looking at the coursework versus the name. Currently a course by course analysis is done. Jason Dietrich confirmed.
- Dr. Tom Pierce shared that when someone comes in with a different name of a license, specifically those coming in from out-of-state; a course by course evaluation has to be done. If courses appear to be different in name, his understanding is the person is not issued a license. This is a problem that someone needs to tackle if not, every single license will have to have an evaluation on a course by course basis. He stated that the Special Education Task Force has been trying to come up with a topical name for a license which another state has under a different name.

Motion: Commissioner Carvalho made a motion amendment to NAC 391.237 to reflect the endorsement name change from TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) to ELAD (English Language Acquisition and Development). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Esparza. Motion carried unanimously.

NAC 391.237 – Section 1

- The English Mastery Council (EMC) recommends that NAC 391.237 to require a Practicum to include a minimum of 25 hours of classroom experience. Rachel Salas shared that it was determined by the TESL subcommittee following a conversation with Dena Durish, that the practicum seem to work better with the fourth course. The course would be two-credits and then a 1 credit practicum that would include the minimum 25 hours experience.
- Dr. Tom Pierce stated his department can easily incorporate the one credit. Unless there is some identification of what the practicum is, there will be a problem. Proof is needed that the practicum was in subject x, y, or z. The focus of a practicum is working with children in a school with a specific purpose.

- Dena Durish clarified about provisional licenses versus a provisional endorsement. Highly qualified are fully certified teachers in core content areas. If a candidate is applying for a license in a core content area and they are missing a key component they cannot be issued a provisional license. We do have discretion that provides the authority to add an endorsement to the license as long as it is not in a core area. This is applicable up to 6 missing credits. The department's perspective is when we drill down to the level of specificity; the analyst cannot guarantee or be expected to ask a candidate to turn in proof of the 25 hours working with students. It is not done in other license areas. It states one credit in the particular area. She cautioned against including the language. Dena Durish confirmed for Commissioner Burnham the language "One credit practicum with English Learners" would suffice as language.
- Andre Yates stated there are many regulations where experience is recognized in lieu of semester hour credits. He suggested language "XXX number of hours in lieu of practicums". The language should recognize experience with the student learning a second language.
- Commissioner Esparza shared from her experience often times coursework will build in field experiences to ensure they are getting the time with second language students.
- Commissioner Burnham said the reason it was included was to specifically make it very clear that it was best practice and expected. We need to ask if it is reasonable to expect analysts to review the required hours for the practicum including provided verifiable experience.
- Dena Durish shared this would cause gray areas and may in fact water down the intent. The intent is to be practicing under someone who has demonstrated successful experience with it. Dena Durish confirmed for Commissioner Zeh that someone coming in from out of state that does not have a practicum could be issued a provisional endorsement while attempting to take the required class.
- Andre Yates reiterated the concern over the practicum piece. He provided an example of an LA Unified teacher working with 100% second language students with no endorsements and has 30 years of experience. They will not qualify for TESL language endorsement in Nevada because they cannot meet the requirements instead of using their years of experience. They would be missing a one credit practicum class. He also stated that inconvenience to analysts is not a good reason to not evaluate experience.

Motion: Commissioner Carvalho made a motion to add the practicum in NAC 391.237 (1)b(5), a 1 credit practicum with English Learners. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bean. Motion carried unanimously.

NAC 391.237 – Section 3

- The English Mastery Council (EMC) recommends that NAC 391.237 be amended to include a new English Acquisition and Development (ELAD) Specialist Endorsement.
- Rachel Salas mentioned we do not currently have a "Specialist" endorsement. There is only a TESL endorsement or TESL Professional. This would create a new Specialist endorsement. They would need an ELAD endorsement and coursework in leadership CLD (Cultural Linguistics diversity). It's much broader than just looking at language acquisition. This would allow a specialist to help teachers run a program or help and coach teachers in schools with English Learners where there is no ELAD endorsement.
- Dena Durish mentioned that the proposal would create the endorsement area but does not establish a hiring requirement for licensure for these positions. It only allows an endorsement to be

added to their license. Commissioner Burnham added this would make available a higher level endorsement and a district could make a decision whether to hire them.

- Rachel Salas stated other states institutions offer CLD courses. Not looking for the name of the class but rather the area of study. Rachel Salas mentioned they would still need a leadership course, CLD. It was suggested by Dena Durish the language could reflect “graduate level courses or upper-level courses”.
- Andre Yates asked if someone holds a current TESL license, will they have to go back to take additional courses in order to maintain the TESL license. He asked if those who have Masters in TESL and holding an ESL License have to go back or be considered already at the level. Rachel Salas replied if someone has the TESL endorsement without a Masters they could take the classes they chose to.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Carvalho to move 391.237 Section 3 and 4 EMC proposed language to public hearing. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Zeh. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Esparza was not present.

Agenda Item #8 - Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.045 Section 1(d) to require all new educator licensees to have an English Language Acquisition and Development (ELAD) Endorsement. There were 15 individuals present in Las Vegas and 9 individuals present in Carson City. Workshop discussion started at 9:57 a.m. and ended at 10:53 a.m.

- Commissioner Burnham clarified that this proposal is for all those applying for a teaching license, but if they don’t have ELAD endorsement courses, they would not be able to get a license.
- Rachel Salas stated 391.045 Section 1(d) looks at all new licensees coming in. Dena Durish confirmed for Commissioner Burnham this regulation applies to teachers coming from in and out of state and applying for all areas of initial licensure in the state of Nevada. Dena Durish stated we cannot create different initial license requirements for those who have fulfilled requirements in-state versus out of state. Commissioner Burnham stated it is a good idea for everyone to be ELAD endorsed, but there are other avenues besides changing regulations where in-state candidates would be encouraged to obtain the endorsement.
- Linda Quinn said programs at UNLV are directed so when candidates graduate their program they are eligible for licensure. In Elementary, they currently have 2 TESL classes that are required. For the new ARL Program there is one class, and one for the secondary program. If the Commission moves forward, UNLV will need to add additional hours to their program. NSHE says that are at the maximum hours they can require so this would cause a problem.
- Andre Yates stated the district supports the concept and in-state option and preparing local candidate for second language students. However, this change would be “catastrophic” to recruitment efforts. Most of their candidates come from out of state and this will eliminate many candidates because of the people who lack the proposed qualifications.
- Dr. Tom Pierce indicated when an applicant completes the Special Education Program at UNLV in the undergraduate level graduate they finish with eligibility for licenses and endorsement in EL (English Learner). He urged the Commission to decline this item as presented. This item is not only about teachers but all teacher licensed personnel and this additional requirement would complicate getting a license, as all applicants will be “standing in line” for these limited classes.

- Dr. Tom Pierce addressed Commissioner Burnham's question if this would apply to ARL. He stated according to the program the Commission approved for UNLV, the EL courses were not listed and his assumption is no. This would mean that not all new teachers would be endorsed in this area because 391.045 does not apply to ARL. Dena Durish clarified that it is not indicated in NAC 391.057 that someone must also meet the requirements of NAC 391.045.
- Dr. Tom Pierce also asked if this item was denied or passed would someone from the Commission explain the reasons to the State Board the reason for the decision. DAG Greg Ott stated there is no obligation for Commissioner Burnham to attend. Commissioner Burnham replied that she would be happy to attend. DAG Greg Ott clarified that this Commission has the authority to enact regulations. If this item is moved to hearing, it does not need to go to State Board. If it moves in the direction of denial, the item goes back to EMC and they could make a recommendation to the State Board.
- Commissioner Burnham made the observation there was no support from the members to move this item into public hearing immediately or support for looking at in the future. DAG Greg Ott clarified a workshop can be taken up at a later date if this item is not passed.
- Marty Gardner addressed the Commission sharing that this item impacts the hiring of teachers in CCSD schools. The best thing for students is to have a licensed teacher in the classroom. Another requirement would create a burden on the schools and children. There could probably be more discussion on this item in the upcoming legislative session around SB504, which affects this item.
- Commissioner Carvalho shared that based on personal experience and the testimony given today, to require ELAD endorsement from teachers would destroy our educational system. She is not in favor of the proposed requirement and does not support of moving item to a hearing.
- Rachel Salas stated that there has to be some meeting of minds of how we work with our EL population. Based on statistics there is a need for ELAD/TESL instructors.
- Commissioner Burnham is supportive of the idea of increasing the number of ELAD endorsed teachers. She suggested perhaps school districts requiring everyone to have this endorsement or incentivizing new and existing teachers to obtain the endorsement. Dr. Tom Pierce added there may be a potential compromise in teacher contracts where there incentives are offered. The State could provide financial incentives in teacher contracts if they are committed to this. Commissioner Burnham reminded it is not within the purview of our body to change teacher contracts. She expressed that she is not in a position to say that all teacher preparation programs are ready to implement additional courses.
- Dena Durish shared that during this workshop phase for this item, the Commission is able to discuss other options, and not just EMC specific language. Commissioner Esparza suggested looking at the Teacher Prep programs and work backwards to find a meeting in the middle.
- Commissioner Carvalho agrees there is a need for more of these endorsements, but the Commission would have done their part by offering the proposed endorsement updating and cleaning up the language. Other entities would have to address the incentivizing part, as it is not part of our purview. She reiterated she does not support the endorsement being required for every licensee.
- Commissioner Bean agrees that incentivizing could be a part of the solution. She expressed that she does not support EMC's recommendation as is.

- Commissioner McGregor agrees there is a need for the endorsement but to make this a requirement for all new teachers would be very burdensome. She believes there is a way to incentivize teachers as they have done in Washoe County.
- Commissioner Casey stated he does not support the recommendation as it is currently written.
- Commissioner Carvalho expressed that the body is open to recommendations as long as it does not prohibit licensing teachers.

Motion: Commissioner Carvalho made a motion to not approve proposed language and not move NAC 391.045 Section 1(d) that requires all new licensees to have an ELAD endorsement to public hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bean. Motion carried unanimously.

- Commissioner Burnham wanted it noted for the record that everyone that was heard from agrees that this is a good way to move towards in the future to get teachers endorsed, but the Commission does not feel they can in the manner it was proposed.
- Dena Durish noted that the members can draft a letter to EMC or State Board regarding the action just taken. Commissioner Carvalho suggested perhaps those wanting to can sign the letter. DAG Greg Ott shared the draft letter has to be on agenda and approved. Commissioner Burnham stated the draft could be placed on the January meeting agenda for approval.

Agenda Item #8 - Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.070: Renewal of license: General requirements; fee; delay of expiration date by Superintendent of Public Instruction. There were 15 individuals present in Las Vegas and 9 individuals present in Carson City. Workshop discussion started at 10:58 a.m. and ended at 11:38 a.m.

- The English Mastery Council recommends that Section 1(b) be amended to include a minimum of three semester hours of continuing education in the area of English Language Acquisition and Development (ELAD) as part of the educator license renewal requirement.
- Rachel Salas stated that the EMC would like to amend the suggested language in part 391.045(b) “to include at least three semester hours of coursework focused on English Learners pursuant to NAC 391.237, unless licensee already holds an endorsement under NAC 391.237.” Rachel Salas clarified that this proposed language would be applicable for *ALL* renewals. The applicants would be required to take one ELAD course unless they have already obtained the TESL or ELAD endorsement at which time they would not be required to take an ELAD but could if they chose to. Rachel Salas clarified that the proposed hours of coursework would be obtained through a university and could be done online. Jane Splean added that coursework could be obtained from entities like Stanford MOOCS. The language written was not implying a licensee could only obtain university credits but to include other credits as well.
- Dena Durish expressed it has to be coursework as outlined for an endorsement. If someone chooses to take a course that appears on a transcript, then they could choose to add the endorsement. But if they chose alternative means of obtaining the ELAD requirements, such as PDE’s, those courses could not be used to add an endorsement.
- Commissioner Zeh stated we should keep in mind specialists that fall into the OLP (Other Licensed Provider) group and Commissioner Burnham agreed that the language proposed is murky at this point.

- Rachel Salas shared that this item is one way they can work with Nevada teachers to help them obtain the education to work with ELs. If not, then the EMC would be looking to the State Board to help with the drafting of language so the item does not fall to the backburner. She clarified there are very few schools in Nevada that have no EL population.
- Commissioner Casey mentioned it's a great idea and should be considered as a teacher requirement , but that a choice should be given to the applicant of whether or not to obtain the endorsement.
- Commissioner Esparza stated the language is guiding people to make a specific choice in what to take for renewal. She cautioned there is a bigger scope involved as it also affects administrators and specialist in the district.
- Andre Yates shared that the renewal process needs to be overhauled, as it is not effective and does not work. He mentioned a better approach of collaborative effort through the NEPF system of evaluation where teacher, administrator, and/or the administrator's supervisor decides on what classes should be taken for renewal. He stated this would improve effectiveness, and stressed the purpose of credits is to ultimately improve the performance of the person renewing.
- Commissioner Carvalho stated she likes the idea of requiring EL for continuing education for teachers, but based on the language presented and legal issues, we are not ready to move forward. She was not in favor adopting language today but would like to see a solution where we work towards something.
- DAG Greg Ott stated there is no subcommittee meeting but the EMC has another meeting scheduled. The Commission can table the item or send it back to EMC for language revision
- Commissioner Burnham clarified for Rachel Salas the Commission's recommendation for a one 3-credit course at the time of renewal. EMC could perhaps take a look at placing recommended language in 391.065 or 391.075 versus 391.070. Dena Durish pointed out 391.065 is for the renewal of a license and its prerequisites. 391.075 speaks to how to obtain credits. The current proposed language would make it a renewal requirement for "all" licensees. Dena Durish clarified that the language could possibly be written to exempt a specific type of license i.e. "For those who hold a ____ license, XX amount of credits are required" or "For those who hold a license in ____, XX amount of credits are required" being specific to the areas of licensure.

Motion: Commissioner Casey made a motion to not move proposed language for item 391.070 to hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Esparza seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

DAG Greg Ott clarified that the TESL subcommittee can meet without direction from EMC. COPS can put this item on the agenda for a future meeting without the EMC change in language.

Agenda Item #7 – Consideration and Possible Approval of Competency Tests Scores Required for Licensure by NAC 391.036(c) for the Endorsement Areas: Speech Communication (Test #5221) , Theatrical Arts (Test #5641), Geography (Test #5921), Latin (Test #5601)

Dr. Terry Owens presented a Power Point presentation regarding Praxis score setting recommendations and explaining the standard and validation setting process.

- Speech (Test 5221). Members reviewed information presented by Dr. Owens about passing rates and cut scores. Dr. Owens shared that Nevada had already approved a passing scores of 146, and stated that no action is necessary.
- Latin (Test 5601). Members reviewed information presented by Dr. Owens about passing rates and cut scores. Motion was made by Commissioner Carvalho to approve a cut score of 152 for Latin Test # 5601. Motion seconded by Commissioner Zeh. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Burnham stated the body would like to see multi-state standard study once it becomes available for the test that currently have none.
- Theatre (Test 5641). Members reviewed information presented by Dr. Owens about passing rates and cut scores. Motion was made by Commissioner Bean to approve a cut score of 155 for Theatre, Test # 5641. Motion seconded by Commissioner Esparza. Motion carried unanimously.
- Geography (Test 5921). Members reviewed information presented by Dr. Owens about passing rates and cut scores. Motion was made by Commissioner Carvalho to approve a cut score of 153 for Geography, Test # 5921. Motion seconded by Commissioner Zeh. Motion carried unanimously.

Dena Durish asked for clarification if recommended 1-year review period would be from the day adopted or date of implementation. Jim confirmed the cut-scores approved today would go into effect fall of 2015 per Title II reporting requirements and pass rate data. Dr. Terry Owens recommended that the Commission do a review after ETS does their next update, which will be in May of 2016.

Agenda Item #8 - Workshops to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.036: Tests of competency required for initial license; exemptions; failure to comply; times for administration of tests. There were 15 individuals present in Las Vegas and 9 individuals present in Carson City. Discussion began at 12:24 p.m. and ended at 12:57 p.m.

- Because Educational Testing Service (ETS) often regenerates tests, Dr. Terry Owens recommends NAC 391.036 Section 3(a)1 be revised to reflect language such as, “The approved tests administered by the Nevada licensing vendor...” This would eliminate the Commission having to review the language whenever a new test is adopted. She addressed Commissioner Burnham’s concern regarding where test change history is maintained, and confirmed that ETS keeps an official database of tests adopted and dropped through an official adoption process.
- Dena Durish suggested using the verbiage from 391.036 Section 5(a). Commissioner Burnham suggested indicating the exact name of the tests as a check and balance process. Jason Dietrich shared Licensure defers to ETS as their primary tool when licensing applicants.
- Commissioner Esparza recommended changing the language to reflect the name of the actual test and revising the NAC when a new test is adopted.

Motion was made by Commissioner Esparza to move to public hearing NAC 391.036, Section 4(a), amending the test name to “*Principles of Learning and Teaching: K-6 or Principles of Learning and Teaching: Grades 7-12,*” and Section 4(c) replacing “*Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Test, and the Elementary Education: Content Area Exercises Test*” to become “*Elementary Education: Instructional Practice and Applications.*” Motion seconded by Carvalho. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.045: Application for license or endorsement: Required documentation; fee; applicability of academic credits. There were 15

individuals present in Las Vegas and 9 individuals present in Carson City. Discussion began at 12:57 p.m. and ended at 1:11 p.m.

Section 1(c)(1) and 1(c)(2)

- Dena Durish said that under NAC 391.045 Section 1.2(c)1, if a person comes from another state to apply for a license, if they do not have a family engagement class, they would not qualify for a license. Because it would prevent them from issuing almost every license through reciprocity, the NDE is not currently holding up issuing licenses to those without this requirement, but they are not in compliance with the way the regulation is currently worded. At the request of Commissioner Burnham, DAG Greg Ott will do research on NAC 391.045 to figure out what the legislative intent was behind this addition.
- Dena Durish pointed out that the language as currently worded implies that three semester hours are required for licensure, but that the “in-service or continuing education course” option is unclear and may lead to the possibility that a short, few hour training session could satisfy this requirement. Dena Durish will ask the new Educational Program Professional for Family Engagement to research the history on the legislation that led to this regulation.
- Section NAC 391.045 1(c)(1) and 1(c)2 was tabled to be heard at the next meeting.

Agenda Item #8 - Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.045: Application, official transcripts with required coursework, and the \$50 fee are required to add an area of endorsement. There were 15 individuals present in Las Vegas and 9 individuals present in Carson City. Discussion began at 1:11 p.m. and ended at 1:30 p.m.

NAC 391.045 – Section 3 (a) and (b)

- Dena Durish brought to the attention that there is a possible loophole for those already holding a license and wanting to add an endorsement as referenced in 391.045(3)a and (b) on page 7 of workshop handout. The regulation currently does not require applicants to pass the Praxis test in order to obtain an additional endorsement. Because initial licensure requires passing an exam in all areas, she feels that the Commission should consider whether the intent is for all licensees to demonstrate competency before adding a new area of endorsement.
- When asked by Commissioner Carvalho for a recommendation for specific proposed language, Dena Durish’s recommendation was adding a section 3(c) that states something similar to, “....and demonstration of subject matter competency at the level of competency specified by the Commission, the competency test in that subject matter.” DAG Greg Ott clarified that specific proposed language is not needed in the workshop phase, but will need to be provided when it gets to the public hearing.
- Andre Yates stated that perhaps the language could reflect wording such as, “or provide the required credits for endorsement or passage of the specific Praxis test,” as this is the current requirement for ARL candidates and would allow for the option of coursework for a minor area or testing.
- Kate Schum asked if the body would be open to looking at GPA to add the endorsement instead of a financial burden of the Praxis exam.
- When Chair Burnham stated her concern that this would be a significant change, Dena Durish reminded the Commission that LCB is in a temporary regulation period. She agreed that this would

be a significant substantive change for new applicants, so the Department would request waiting until LCB could draft the language after July 2015 and then holding a hearing.

- Commissioner Carvalho stated that she does not feel that adding this is necessary, but is not opposed to moving this item to a public hearing and having public comment on it when language has been proposed by LCB
- NAC 391.045 3(c) was tabled to be heard after July 2015.

Agenda Item #8 - Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.045: Differentiated fee structure to licensure applications. There were 15 individuals present in Las Vegas and 9 individuals present in Carson City. Discussion began at 1:30 p.m. and ended at 1:42 p.m.

NAC 391.045 – Section 1(d)

- Dena Durish asked if the Commission would entertain a fee structure referencing NAC 391.045(1)d that could be different for out of state applicants for additional work or research.
- Commissioner Burnham responded that if there is reason for the free structure differential perhaps the Licensure office staff could submit a breakdown of fees (i.e. fingerprints, time to evaluate an application, research, etc.) Addressing Commissioner Carvalho's follow-up inquiry, Dena stated that revenue goes to the operating budget and that any new State positions need approval by legislature.
- Commissioner Bean asked if research was done to see what fee structure other states have implemented. Dena Durish replied that the department will be happy to present more data for a future meeting with department staff.

Agenda Item #8 - Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.070: Renewal of license: General requirements; Required documentation; fee; delay of expiration date by Superintendent of Public Instruction. There were 15 individuals present in Las Vegas and 9 individuals present in Carson City. Discussion began at 1:42 p.m. and ended at 1:48 p.m.

- Dena Durish shared possible options of different tiered fee structures to see if the Commission would consider this for review/modification. (i.e. applicants who need an extension versus those who have never had one and renewed on time.)
- Item 391.070 1(c) was tabled for a future date. Chair Burnham asked for the same of data analysis as the previous item.

Commissioner Carvalho left the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Agenda Item #8 - Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.073: Renewal of license: Requirements for persons who are retired and hold a valid license issued by Superintendent of Public Instruction; fee; term of validity; delay of expiration date by Superintendent; endorsement; renewal. There were 15 individuals present in Las Vegas and 9 individuals present in Carson City. Discussion began at 1:48 p.m. and ended at 2:15 p.m.

NAC 391.073 – Section(1)(a)

- It was verified for the record that Jolina Johnson is the constituent who contacted Assemblyman O'Neill.
- In response to a question asked, Melodie Barnes stated that she has not had the experience of a teacher applying for a license that didn't meet the PERS in state requirement, and that they are

issued a 10-year license which no longer requires renewal credits. This allows them to continue to teach in classrooms.

- Dena Durish shared the intent of the regulation is verifying that the applicant is indeed a retired teacher. But noted this will likely become a more relevant conversation as the number of private and charter schools in the state increases, but also stated that there should be some type of documentation provided by the applicant to prove the applicant is retired instead of leaving it up to analysts.
- Commissioner Casey shared that an applicant should have a retirement program established at their school, and perhaps the applicant could have a statement from the employers to verify the 15 years of employment experience.
- Andre Yates addressed Commissioner Bean's inquiry about where retired teachers typically work stating that "critical need" used to be identified by the state but is now done by individual districts. There is a critical need in areas of math, science, and Special Education. It is not a long term issue. He reiterated that once a person goes on to obtain professional retiree license they stay on it forever and are no longer will need renewal credits.
- Commissioner Burnham suggested a follow up letter to Assemblyman O'Neill to state that the Commission agrees with this in principle but we need to prove that the applicant is retired and ask if he has any proposed language as to how a retiree's status could be verified."
- Commissioner Burnham raised the concern that even if 391.073(1)(a) is addressed, subsection (b) would need to be reviewed as well.
- This item was tabled future workshop agenda item

Agenda Item #8 - Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to NAC 391.050: Transcripts

Discussion began at 2:15 p.m. and ended at 2:18 p.m.

- Jason Dietrich stated that current regulation specifies that transcripts are to be in original form. We would need to draft some type of language to accept electronic submission of transcripts. The current norm is a delivery method called e-scripts which are secured transactions sent directly from the institutions.
- This item was tabled future workshop agenda item

NAC 391.180 Endorsement as school counselor

NAC 391.185: Qualifications for endorsement as school counselor.

NAC 391.187: Authorization to serve as school counselor without endorsement.

These items were tabled future workshop agenda item

- Commissioner Burnham stated we need to know exactly what the issue is at hand. If the group that originally proposed the language change would please attend the meeting she would happy to put them at the top of the agenda.
- This item was tabled future workshop agenda item

Agenda Item #9 – Future Agenda Items:

Letter from Commission for 391.045

Workshop for 391.065 (EMC)

Workshop 391.070 (EMC)

Agenda Item #10 - Commissioner Comments

There were no Commissioner comments.

Agenda Item #11 - Deputy Attorney General Comments

DAG Greg Ott thanked the board for the homework assignment.

Agenda Item #12 - Public Comment #2

There were no public comments in the north or the south.

Agenda Item #13 - Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.